



## District of Columbia Corrections Information Council (CIC) Bulletin March 1, 2016

### Thank you, Cara Comani



Cara Comani has been the CIC Program Analyst since August 2012, when she was the sole staff person for the 3-member volunteer board, located in a desk bank on the 5th Floor of the Wilson Building. During her 3.5 year tenure, she has overseen the agency's growth to six full-time staff, an office space in Columbia Heights, and has lead 39 facility inspections. Cara has left an indelible mark on the CIC, the DC community, and on corrections oversight. She will continue to change the state of incarceration in this country at the Vera Institute of Justice in NYC, where she will continue to address corrections issues.

Thank you, Cara, and good luck in your next great adventure.

### *The Human Toll of Jail: Fighting for Face Time*

The Vera Institute of Justice and its digital publishing partner, Narratively, started a storytelling collaboration entitled, "The Human Toll of Jail." "Fighting for Face Time" is the project's first report, by documentary photographer Gabriella Bulosova and Lashonia Thompson-El (nee Etheridge-Bey), which highlights inmates' struggles to stay connected with their children and families and the importance of in-person visits. Lashonia participate in this project prior to joining the CIC as a program analyst in December 2015, but through this report one can clearly see the value she adds to our work.



### Colson Task Force Final Recommendations Released

Also this week, the Colson Task Force released its final recommendations to reform the federal corrections system in its [report](#), "Transforming Prisons, Restoring Lives: Final Recommendations of the Charles Colson Task Force on Federal Corrections." The Colson Task Force stated that it has endeavored over the past year to "identify the drivers of prison population growth, supporting the development of policy recommendations designed to improve public safety, increase accountability of those in the criminal justice system, and reduce recidivism." The DC Reentry Task Force recognized in its Jan. 26, 2016 press release that these general recommendations did not take into account the unique challenges of DC residents in the Federal Bureau of Prisons system. The CIC will continue meet with leaders in the community, government, and corrections agencies about how to improve the conditions of confinement (including programming and reentry services) for District residents.

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*The Corrections Information Council (CIC) is an independent agency mandated to inspect, monitor, and report on the conditions of confinement at facilities where DC residents are incarcerated. This includes facilities operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the DC Department of Corrections, and private contract facilities. The CIC does not handle individual complaints, provide legal representation or provide legal advice.*